



# Experiences of Indian Graduate Students at a Mid-Western Catholic Private Institution

Rajalakshmi Ananthraja

Advisor: Dr. Nasser Razek



## Purpose

This study examined the experience of Indian graduate students and their transition to a mid-western Catholic private institutions as well as knowing the sources that are motivating or demotivating them in their journey of higher education.

## Research Questions

- Are Indian graduate students getting smooth transition to the American system in a mid-western Catholic private institution?
- If so, what are all the influencing sources? And how they contribute to the outcome?

## Methods

This research has two stages:

- Electronic survey was distributed to all Indian graduate students studying at the university of Dayton.
- Selected Indian graduate students participated in one-on-one interview to share their insights.

## Findings

### Language Barrier

- American Slang
- Backend Jobs
- Native Language

### Cultural Differences

- Being formal with friends and families
- Fear of being misunderstood
- So hungry

### Social Interactions

- Networking
- Homesick
- Discrimination

### Academic Challenges

- Academic System
- Specialization
- Visa Status

## Participants

The selected Indian students are spread across first and second year of the graduate program attending University of Dayton.

## Conclusion

From the research findings, it can be concluded that Indian graduate students are getting mixed experience both in academic as well as in their social life on campus. Their frustration due to language barrier, cultural differences, social interactions and academic challenges were visible during the interview process. At the same time they showed interest to overcome their challenges.

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